



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**ONCE AGAIN, CLINTON MONUMENT DESIGNATION IGNORES VIEWS OF LOCAL  
OFFICIALS, SAYS BENNETT**

*Tainted process means rough start for new monument*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Senator Bob Bennett (R-Utah) today issued the following statement regarding President Clinton's designation of a new national monument near the Utah border in Arizona:

"The main difference between President Clinton's last abuse of the Antiquities Act and his designation today, is that last time he did it on my birthday. As he did in '96, today the president has ignored the opinions of officials and citizens most connected with this land. He's literally taken the `public' out of `public lands.' We could add today's action to our list of Y2K glitches – the right kind of preparation would have made all the difference.

"He has also ignored 408 members of the House, including 197 members of his own party, who in saying this is a bad way to govern, passed legislation to ensure that the public and elected officials are not shut out of this process. I've co-sponsored a similar bill in the Senate and am optimistic, with the strong support in the House, that we will prohibit future presidents from these same abuses of power.

"Because this monument will go forward, my primary concern is for the citizens, including many Utahns, who for generations have made their living off this land. I hope the president keeps his word and provides for its continued use for traditional activities like grazing. I also hope he will see that compromising the democratic process is a high price to pay for a photo-op legacy at the Grand Canyon, or a boost to a sputtering Gore campaign."

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<http://www.senate.gov/~bennett>